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Rosemead Man Convicted of Mother's Murder

A jury today found a Rosemead man guilty of killing his mother and burying her body in the backyard, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Cynthia Valenzuela said the jury deliberated for a day before finding John Taylor Huynh, 30, guilty of first-degree murder. Jurors also found true an allegation that the defendant personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife, in the commission of the crime.

Huynh is scheduled to be sentenced May 30 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Pomona before Judge Thomas C. Falls. The defendant faces a maximum sentence of 26 years to life in state prison.

The prosecutor said Huynh walked into the Alhambra Police Department on May 20, 2011 and told authorities that sometime in 2001 he killed his mother, Hong Tu Phuong. Furthermore, Huynh claimed that he buried her body in the backyard of their rented El Monte condominium.

Officials went to the home and discovered the victim's body in a shallow grave, the prosecutor said. It was later determined that Phuong was stabbed to death.

During the trial, the defendant testified that he moved out of the condo a week after the killing. When people asked about his mother's whereabouts, Huynh provided various excuses, including that she died of cancer and moved to Vietnam.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Homicide Bureau.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.